

SUPPLEMENTAL AMENDMENT  
Appln. No. 09/917.874REMARKS

This filing on Tuesday, January 20, 2004 is timely without need for an extension time, since the due date of January 17, 2004 (based on the Notice of Appeal filed November 17, 2003) fell on a Saturday and Monday, January 19, 2004 was a federal holiday.

This Supplemental Amendment is filed pursuant to a telephone communication from the undersigned attorney in view of Applicants' further consideration of final Office Action and the Advisory Action of November 20, 2003, from which it appeared that a further simple amendment of claim 1 could provide further clear basis for distinguishing over the prior art, and could result in the claims being rendered allowable.

Accordingly, upon discussion between the undersigned attorney and the above-identified Examiner as to including the further limitation in claim 1 of the multi-layer gas sensor element having the members thereof "co-fired together," it was believed that clear distinction was established over the prior art rejections. Furthermore, it was noted that basis for the amended recitation of claim 1 is found in the specification, e.g., in the description of the firing at page 17 of the specification.

It is understood that the Examiner has agreed that the further amendment of claim 1 made herein provides basis for patentability of the present claims over the cited prior art of record. The foregoing is furthermore considered to constitute an appropriate Statement of the Substance

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of the Interview conducted telephonically between the undersigned attorney and the Examiner regarding this Supplemental Amendment and the basics for patentability of the claims.

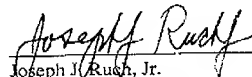
Applicant's express their deep appreciation to the Examiner for his consideration and entry of this Supplemental Amendment.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby earnestly solicited.

If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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WASHINGTON OFFICE

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Date: January 20, 2004

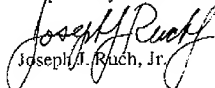
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**CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION**

Sir:

I hereby certify that the above identified correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to Examiner Kaj K. Olsen at the Patent and Trademark Office on January 20, 2004 at 703-872-9306.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Joseph J. Ruch, Jr.